

In the Claims

Claims 1-6 (Cancelled)

Claim 7 (Currently amended): A method of suppressing malignant transformation of a cell, comprising administering to the cell a composition comprising RhoB, ~~a variant of RhoB~~, or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof.

Claim 8 (Currently amended): A method of inhibiting tumor growth, comprising administering to the tumor a composition comprising RhoB, ~~a variant of RhoB~~, or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof.

Claim 9 (Currently amended): A method of inducing apoptosis in a transformed cell, comprising administering to the cell a composition comprising RhoB, ~~a variant of RhoB~~, or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof.

Claim 10 (Currently amended): A method of inhibiting oncogenic signaling in a cell, comprising administering to the cell a composition comprising RhoB, ~~a variant of RhoB~~, or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof.

Claim 11 (Currently amended): A prophylactic method for preventing malignant transformation of a cell, comprising administering to the cell a composition comprising RhoB, ~~a variant of RhoB~~, or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof.

Claim 12 (Currently amended): A method for decreasing phosphorylated protein in a transformed cell, wherein the protein is Akt, Erk1, or Erk2, comprising:

contacting the interior of the cell with an effective amount of a RhoB protein ~~or a variant thereof~~ or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof.

Claims 13-15 (Cancelled)

Claim 16 (Currently amended): A method of inhibiting the growth of a cancerous cell, comprising:

contacting the interior of the cell with an effective amount of a RhoB protein ~~or a variant thereof~~ or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof; and

administering at least one additional therapy selected from the group consisting of chemotherapy, radiation therapy, and therapy that selectively inhibits Ras oncogenic signaling.

Claim 17 (New): A method of suppressing the growth of cancerous cells, comprising introducing a nucleic acid construct comprising a nucleic acid sequence encoding RhoB protein into the cancerous cells, wherein the nucleic acid sequence is expressed and an effective amount of RhoB protein is produced in the cancerous cells.

Claim 18 (New): The method of claim 17, wherein the nucleic acid construct is introduced into the cancerous cells within a viral vector.

Claim 19 (New): The method of claim 17, wherein the nucleic acid construct is introduced into the cancerous cells *in vitro*.

Claim 20 (New): The method of claim 17, wherein the nucleic acid construct is introduced into the cancerous cells of a mammal *in vivo*.

Claim 21 (New): The method of claim 20, wherein the nucleic acid construct is introduced into the cancerous cells locally.

Claim 22 (New): The method of claim 20, wherein said introducing comprises administering the nucleic acid construct to the mammal systemically.

Claim 23 (New): The method of claim 20, wherein the mammal is human.

Claim 24 (New): The method of claim 20, wherein the method further comprises administering at least one additional therapy to the mammal, wherein the therapy is selected from the group consisting of chemotherapy, radiation therapy, and therapy that selectively inhibits Ras oncogenic signaling.

Claim 25 (New): The method of claim 17, wherein the cancerous cells are cells of a solid tumor.

Claim 26 (New): The method of claim 17, wherein the cancerous cells are selected from the group consisting of lung cancer cells, pancreatic cancer cells, prostate cancer cells, and melanoma cancer cells.

Claim 27 (New): A method of suppressing the growth of cancerous cells, comprising introducing an effective amount of RhoB protein, or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof, into the cancerous cells.

Claim 28 (New): The method of claim 27, wherein the RhoB protein, or pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof, is introduced into the cancerous cells of a mammal *in vivo*.

Claim 29 (New): The method of claim 28, wherein said introducing comprises administering the RhoB protein, or pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof, to the mammal systemically.

Claim 30 (New): The method of claim 28, wherein the RhoB protein, or pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof, is introduced into the cancerous cells using a carrier and a targeting molecule.

Claim 31 (New): The method of claim 28, wherein the method further comprises administering at least one additional therapy to the mammal, wherein the therapy is selected from the group consisting of chemotherapy, radiation therapy, and therapy that selectively inhibits Ras oncogenic signaling.

Claim 32 (New): The method of claim 27, wherein the cancerous cells are cells of a solid tumor.

Claim 33 (New): The method of claim 27, wherein the cancerous cells are selected from the group consisting of lung cancer cells, pancreatic cancer cells, prostate cancer cells, and melanoma cancer cells.

Claim 34 (New): The method of claim 28, wherein the mammal is human.